

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 29 remain pending in this application. The Examiner has found the application to contain claims directed toward the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Group I: Species A (Figures 1 – 4); and

Group II: Species B (Figures 5 – 8).

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121, the Examiner has required applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Examiner states that “[c]urrently most of the claims are generic.” For this reason, applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction/Election Requirement.

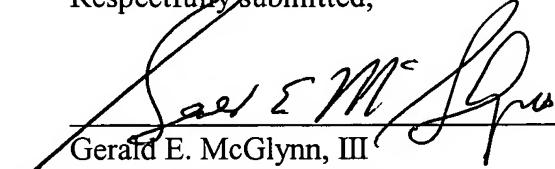
Specifically, applicants note that independent claim 1 is generic and reads on the trail-tape dispensers illustrated in Figures 1 - 8. In addition, applicants take this opportunity to correlate the presently pending claims with the trail-tape dispensers illustrated in the figures.

Claim(s)	Corresponding Trail-Tape Dispensers Illustrated in the Figures
1 – 3 and 12	Figures 1 - 8
4 – 11 and 13 – 18	Figures 1 - 4
19 – 29	Figures 5 - 8

In view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that there is at least one generic independent claim presently pending in this application. Nevertheless, applicants *provisionally* elect to prosecute the invention of Group II—Figures 5 - 8 and claims 1 – 3, 12, and 19 - 29.

Finally, it is respectfully submitted that the claims clearly distinguish over the prior art and are, therefore, allowable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 15, 2004
Attorney Docket No.: 0127.00001